

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A method for detecting a critical event in the pilothouse of a vessel, comprising the steps of:
 - providing a plurality of motion sensors at fixed locations within the pilot house to detect a condition of no motion relative to at least one of the fixed sensors within the pilot house;
 - determining if a throttle of the vessel is in a forward or reverse condition; ~~and~~
 - providing an alarm responsive to a no-motion condition if the throttle is in a forward or reverse condition; and
 - determining if a sensor detects no motion for an excessive length of time during which other sensors detect motion to determine if a sensor is faulty.
2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said condition exists only if no motion is detected by a plurality of sensors during the same time interval.
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
5. (cancelled)
6. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein an alarm is inaudible if said condition persists for a first specified time interval and is audible if said condition persists for a second specified time interval greater than the first time interval.
7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising a mechanism for recording a history of conditions for which an alarm is provided.

8. (cancelled)
9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said sensors are responsive to a change in spatial distribution of infrared energy within the pilothouse.
10. (currently amended) A system for detecting a critical event in the pilothouse of a vessel, comprising:
 - a plurality of sensors at fixed locations within the pilot house to detect a condition of no motion relative to at least one of the fixed sensors within the pilot house;
 - machine-accessible memory located on the vessel to store historical data corresponding to detection of conditions of no motion; ~~and~~
 - an alarm responsive to said no-motion condition; and
 - a timing mechanism to determine if a sensor is faulty.
11. (cancelled)
12. (original) The system of claim 10, wherein an alarm is audible only if said condition persists for a specified time interval.
13. (original) The system of claim 10, wherein an alarm is provided only if said condition is detected when a throttle of the vessel is in forward or reverse state.
14. (cancelled)
15. (original) The system of claim 10, wherein an alarm is inaudible if said condition persists for a first specified time interval and is audible if said condition persists for a second specified time interval greater than the first time interval.
16. (cancelled)
17. (cancelled)
18. (cancelled)

19. (currently amended) A system for detecting a critical event in the pilothouse of a vessel, comprising:

a plurality of sensors at fixed locations within the pilot house responsive to motion within the pilothouse;

a mechanism to determine an event of no motion detected by a sensor for a specified time interval;

a mechanism in the pilot house to store and display a history of events including events of no detected motion; ~~and~~

an alarm indicating the existence of a condition of no motion for a predeterminable duration of time; and

a timing mechanism to determine if a sensor is faulty.

20. (previously presented) The system of claim 19, further comprising a mechanism to communicate a history of events to a place exterior to the pilot house.

21. (previously presented) The system of claim 10, further comprising a tamper alarm to occur if tampering with a sensor is detected.

22. (previously presented) The system of claim 19, further comprising a tamper alarm to occur if tampering with a sensor is detected.

23. (previously presented) The system of claim 19, further comprising a detector to enable the alarm only if a throttle of the vessel is in a forward or reverse state.

24. (previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said alarm comprises a first alarm activated if said condition persists for a first specified time interval and a second alarm activated if said condition persists for a second specified time interval greater than the first time interval.

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25. (cancelled) (see claim 1)

26. (cancelled) (see claim 10)

27. (cancelled) (see claim 19)

28. (previously presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the historical data comprises a time of loss of electrical power in the system.

29. (previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the events comprise a loss of electrical power in the system.